

## Message Text

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14  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /060 W  
----- 051609

R 231239Z SEP 76  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9052  
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
AMCONSUL MUNICH  
DIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, UR  
SUBJ: LEADERSHIP TIDBITS: KOSYGIN AND USTINOV

1. DURING SOCIAL OCCASION SEPT 21 VIKTOR LOUIS TOLD US THAT KOSYGIN WOULD BE BACK ON THE JOB IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS. LOUIS WOULD NOT BE DRAWN OUT REGARDING DETAILS OF KOSYGIN'S ILLNESS AND RECOVERY, ALTHOUGH HE PASSED UP OPPORTUNITY TO DENY AUTHORSHIP OF ORIGINAL "EVENING NEWS" STORY OF KOSYGIN'S SEIZURE.

2. COMMENT BY BRITISH AMBASSADOR AT QUADRIPARTITE MEETING SEPT 21 THAT USTINOV WAS NOT CURRENTLY BEING REFERRED TO IN SOVIET MEDIA AS CC SECRETARY PROMPTED US TO RESEARCH THIS QUESTION. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, USTINOV WAS LAST PUBLICLY IDENTIFIED AS CC SECRETARY ON APRIL 29, IN CONNECTION WITH GRECHKO BURIAL CEREMONY THAT DAY. SINCE THE DECREE APPOINTING HIM MINISTER OF DEFENSE WAS DATED APRIL 29, AND PRESUMABLY DID NOT BECOME EFFECTIVE UNTIL AFTER GRECHKO'S BURIAL MED-DAY APRIL 29, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT AS OF THE TIME OF HIS APPOINTMENT AS DEFENSE MINISTER HE RELINQUISHED HIS POSITION AS CC SECRETARY. IN ANY CASE, HE APPARENTLY HAS NOT BEEN PUBLICLY IDENTIFIED AS CC SECRETARY SINCE APRIL 29. APPRECIATE INR

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CONFIRMATION AND COMMENT.

3. COMMENT: IF IN FACT KOSYGIN WILL SOON RETURN TO WORK, THIS COULD EXPLAIN WHY THE TIMING OF THE NEXT SUPREME SOVIET SESSION (USUALLY ANNOUNCED 30 DAYS IN ADVANCE) HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE PUBLIC. THE LEADERSHIP MAY HAVE DEFERRED A FINAL DECISION ON THE DATE OF THE SESSION UNTIL KOSYGIN'S ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE WAS CLARIFIED.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, HEALTH, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Film Number:** D760360-0906  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
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